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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/510,088	10/04/2004	Nobuhiko Katunuma	TOYA108.006APC	5621
20995	7590	10/14/2005	EXAMINER	
KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR LLP 2040 MAIN STREET FOURTEENTH FLOOR IRVINE, CA 92614			SINGH, SATYENDRA K	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		1651		

DATE MAILED: 10/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/510,088	KATUNUMA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Satyendra K. Singh	1651	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 January 2005.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) 1-30 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant's preliminary amendment filed on Oct. 4th 2004 is duly acknowledged.

Election/Restrictions

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-2, 10-11 and 12, drawn to a cysteine protease inhibitor comprising casein.

Group II, claim(s) 3 and 4, drawn to a cysteine protease inhibitor comprising casein peptides of SEQ ID No.1 or peptide of SEQ ID No.2, or their respective variant sequences (as recited in claim 3 and 4).

Group III, claim(s) 5-9, and 25-27, drawn to a cysteine protease inhibitor comprising casein hydrolysate obtainable by hydrolyzing casein with protease.

Group IV, claim(s) 14-15 and 23-24, drawn to a method of using casein in the manufacture of a cysteine protease inhibitor.

Group V, claim(s) 13, drawn to a method for treating a disease associated with cysteine protease wherein the composition of claim 1 is administered to a subject.

Group VI, claim(s) 16 and 17, drawn to a method of using casein peptides of Seq ID No. 1 or peptide of SEQ ID No.2, or their respective variant sequences (as recited in claims 16 and 17) in manufacture of a cysteine protease inhibitor.

Group VII, claim(s) 18-22 and 29-30, drawn to a method of using casein hydrolysate which is obtainable by hydrolyzing casein with a protease, in the manufacture of a cysteine protease inhibitor.

Group VIII, claim(s) 28, drawn to a method for treating a disease associated with cysteine protease wherein the cysteine protease inhibitor according to claim 5 is administered to a subject.

An international or national stage application containing claims to different categories of invention will be considered to have unity of invention if the claims are drawn only to one of the following combinations of categories;

- (1) a product and a process specially adapted for the manufacture of said product; or
- (2) a product and a process of use of said product; or
- (3) a product, a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product, and a use of the said product; or
- (4) a process and an apparatus specifically designed for carrying out said process; or
- (5) a product, a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product and an apparatus specifically designed for carrying out said process. 37

CFR 1.475.

The instant inventions listed as Groups I-VI fall within category (3), a product, a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product, and a use of the said product.

PCT Rule 13 does not provide for multiple compositions or multiple methods of use within a single application. Thus, the first appearing composition is combined with a corresponding first method of use and the additional composition and method claims each constitute a separate group.

In addition to the requirement that a group of inventions must belong to one of the specific categories provided by PCT Rule 13.2, the inventions in the category, such

as a composition and a method of use of the composition, must have a special technical feature that unites them. See Patent Rules 1.475, where a special technical feature is a contribution OVER THE PRIOR ART.

Thus, the inventions listed as Groups I-VI do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features as demonstrated above. Since the composition AS CLAIMED is known in the art, see Lee et al (IDS) that teach cathepsin B (a lysosomal cysteine protease) inhibitory peptides derived from β -casein, no special technical feature unites these inventions in a category. Furthermore, the claimed language is such that all compositions may be interpreted to encompass casein, or peptides derived therefrom, which is known in the prior art.

The expression "special technical feature" shall mean those technical features that define a contribution which each of the claimed inventions, considered as a whole, makes over the prior art (PCT Rule 13.2). Thus, a feature found in the prior art cannot be considered to be a special technical feature.

In addition, claims 3, 4 (inventions of group II) and 16, 17 (inventions of group VI) recite (in combination) plurality of patentably distinct sequences: Seq ID No. 1 and Seq ID No. 2; and their respective variants/derivatives. Each of these sequences has a distinct structure, function and properties, and therefore, in case applicant elects the invention of group II or group VI, applicant is required to elect one sequence (for example- Seq ID No. 1 or Seq ID No. 2, etc.) for examination purposes, even though

the requirement for this election is traversed. It is noted that this is a restriction requirement, not an election of species.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Satyendra K. Singh whose telephone number is 571-272-8790. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5MF.

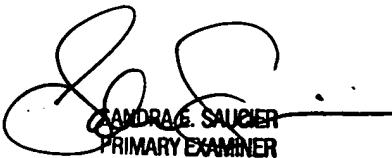
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Wityshyn can be reached on 571-272-0926. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


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Art Unit 1651
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SANDRA E. SAUCIER
PRIMARY EXAMINER